

death. Until this day, no one knows the truth about Waco, and the reason is quite clear. The FBI lied and the Attorney General of the United States lied. They lied and they covered it up. And after all of these lies, no one, nobody, has been held accountable for the massacre at Waco.

□ 1015

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker; an America that turns its back on Waco is an America that turns its back on freedom and justice. An independent investigation is absolutely warranted to solve this cover-up and get to the truth.

I yield back all the lies at the Justice Department.

REGARDING FY 2000 VA, HUD, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the community development block grant program. This program has put local development decision in the hands of those who know best, those who live and work in the community. This long-term commitment to responsible flexibility has paid off leveraging \$2.31 for every Federal dollar spent. Unfortunately, Republicans have chosen to commemorate 25 years of job creation and increased affordable housing by stripping the block grant program of \$250 million in the Fiscal Year 2000 VA HUD appropriations bill.

In Lorain, Ohio, a community struggling with loss of industry and expediting rents as much as 50 percent of income these cuts instantly translate into a loss of jobs, jobs that would have been created next year through mutually beneficial community improvement and construction projects. It defies common sense to deny people in Lorain, Ohio and across the country the chance to support their families and improve their communities just so Republicans can afford to give more tax breaks to the rich.

I encourage my colleagues to vote against this legislation.

THE CRISIS IN EAST TIMOR

(Mr. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, a tragedy has occurred and is occurring at the hands of Indonesia. The people of East Timor are people that have been subjected to the colonial yoke for over 325 years finally lifted their destiny up from the ashes of oppression

and voted for the very first time in history to become an independent Nation. But all of this has been tarnished by the reprehensible inaction by the administering government of Indonesia. Jakarta has missed a golden opportunity to prove the world wrong, that the multi-cultural fabric of Indonesian society could peacefully withstand a sovereignty movement in one of her incorporated colonies. Sadly, the skeptics were right. Pro-Indonesia militias have been on a bloody rampage since the voting results were announced, and what has Jakarta done? Nothing. Thus it appears that the Indonesian authorities want to punish the East Timorese for exercising their inalienable right to self-determination despite promising to provide law and order regardless of the outcome.

The time has come, Madam Speaker, to defend liberty. Our government must condemn the violence in East Timor and the Indonesian government for allowing it to happen. The United States must insist that a multinational peacekeeping force be granted entry to East Timor to restore order, peace and hope. Liberty, the principle of self-determination must not be allowed to be casualties at the hands of Indonesian forces.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 22 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1230

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 12 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1175. An act to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel, a United States citizen, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

H.R. 1833. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for the United States Customs Service for drug interdiction and other operations, for the Office of the United States Trade Representative, for the United States International Trade Commission, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills and a concurrent resolution of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 199. An act for the relief of Alexandre Malofienko, Olga Matsko, and their son, Vladimir Malofienko.

S. 275. An act for the relief of Suchada Kwong.

S. 452. An act for the relief of Belinda McGregor.

S. 620. An act to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, and for other purposes.

S. 632. An act to provide assistance for poison prevention and to stabilize the funding of regional poison control centers.

S. 800. An act to promote and enhance public safety through use of 9-1-1 as the universal emergency assistance number, further deployment of wireless 9-1-1 service, support of States in upgrading 9-1-1 capabilities and related functions, encouragement of construction and operation of seamless, ubiquitous, and reliable networks for personal wireless services, and for other purposes.

S. 1072. An act to make certain technical and other corrections relating to the Centennial of Flight Commemoration Act (36 U.S.C. 143 note; 112 Stat. 3486 et seq.).

S. 1255. An act to protect consumers and promote electronic commerce by amending certain trademark infringement, dilution, and counterfeiting laws, and for other purposes.

S. Con. Res. 48. Concurrent resolution relating to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALSH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 275 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2684.

□ 1245

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, I make a point of order against the consideration of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, I make a point of order that the bill provides